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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/839,103	04/23/2001	Frederic M. Newman	023	1753

7590 02/26/2004

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EXAMINER

AKERS, GEOFFREY R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3624

DATE MAILED: 02/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/839103

Applicant(s)

Newman

Examiner

Akers, J

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 4/23/01
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 2 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Harvey(US Pat. No: 6,519,568) in view of Logan(US Pat. No: 6,493,680).

2. As per claims 1-21 Harvey teaches a data delivery system for delivery of oilfield data from a well to a remote site(Abstract)(col 3 line 31-col 7 line 40).Harvey also teaches a central data computer that processes workflow orders(Abstract). Harvey also teaches a data acquisition computer that transmits data over a communications network to the central data hub in response to a workflow order and a data server that receives data from the central data hub over a second communications network(Abstract) as well as the data server communicating with multiple remote site computers in response to workflow orders(Abstract).Harvey further teaches an acquisition site(Fig 1/11) a central data hub(Fig 1/16) a web data server(Fig 1/18) and a data management center(Fig 1/14) and a data services center(Fig 1/13).Harvey also teaches a master data catalog(Fig 2/21) with a wells database(Fig 2/22) and communications links in the network(Fig 3).Harvey further teaches central data hub external interfaces consisting of data acquisition system interfaces(Fig 10/151) a web browser(Fig 10/152) a real time transfer server(Fig 10/153) and data delivery services interfaces(Fig 10/154) and a fax application server(Fig 10/157) and a web server(Fig 10/159). Harvey also teaches a workflow order submission request(Fig 11/171)validation of the workflow order(Fig 11/172) and placing the workflow order in the dispatch queue(Fig 11/174). Harvey also teaches processing messages in dispatch(Fig 12/181) and dispatching the server

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processing(Fig 12/180). Harvey also teaches dispatching messages(Fig 12/182) and logging message(Fig 12/185).Harvey also teaches status server processing(Fig 13/200) and process status queue task state transitions(Fig 13/201) maintaining task and order states(Fig 13/203) and identifying tasks waiting for events-task and order state transitions(Fig 13/203) In addition to that taught by Harvey, Logan teaches an apparatus for processing billing transactions(Abstract)(col 2 line 29-col 3 line 60). Logan further teaches a method for processing bills for a plurality of customers of a plurality of nodes(sites) within a larger system(Abstract).Logan also teaches an operational management system(Fig 1/12) and a bill payment system(Fig 1/24) and a bill rendering and printing system(Fig 1/22) as well as an accounting system(Fig 1/26). Logan also teaches a bill production(invoice) component(Fig 2/88) and a customer support component(Fig 2/92) and an addressability component for customer interaction(Fig 2/90). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Harvey in view of Logan to teach the disclosure. Logan also teaches a billing data server(Fig 2/116).Logan also teaches a process to generate bills(Fig 4/410). Logan further teaches an initialization phase(Fig 7/702) and a transaction phase(Gig 7/704) and a payments and adjustments phase(Fig 7/706) a collections phase(Fig 7/710) and a bill messages and notices phase(Fig 7/712). The motivation to combine is to teach an accurate centralized control system over billing operations in a network as enunciated by Logan(col 2 lines 29-45) as applied to contractors performing workflow operations at remote sites in an oilfield.

Conclusion

3. THIS ACTION IS MADE NON-FINAL.

4. Questions regarding this communication should be directed to the primary examiner, Dr. Geoffrey Akers, P.E. who can be contacted at (703)-306-5844 between the hours of 6:30 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Friday. If attempts to reach the primary examiner are unsuccessful, the primary examiner's supervisor, Mr. Vincent Millin, SPE, may be telephoned at (703)-308-1065.

GRA

February 22, 2004 

DR. GEOFFREY R. AKERS, P.E.
PRIMARY EXAMINER